

Dispensing of Medications to Residents

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families
Division of Juvenile Correctional Services: Training School and Detention Center

Policy: 1200.1104

Effective Date: January 1, 1988 Revised Date: Version: 1

In order to insure residents' proper medical care and to protect the Department from liability, medication may not be dispensed by other than medical staff except as below. Additional safeguards regarding dispensing of medication have also been developed.

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Procedure From Policy 1200.1104: Dispensing of Medications to Residents

- A. Supervising staff may only administer Tylenol, cough syrup, Maalox or Mylanta, throat lozenges and Bacitracin Ointment found in the Unit First Aid kit. The nurse on duty is to be contacted to get approval prior to dispensing. The nurse will log said in medical log and the supervising staff will log in the Unit log.
- B. No medication of any kind other than those listed in A. above shall be administered by anyone other than a duly licensed member of the Medical Services personnel. This includes nurses, physicians, and dentist.
- C. No prescription medication shall be dispensed or administered without a written physician's order.
- D. Medication other than those listed in A above must be kept under lock and key at all times and only individuals authorized in writing by the Assistant Director may have access to the medicine cabinet.
- E. Medication lines are held four (4) times daily between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- F. Since the first three (3) scheduled hours for dispensing coincide with meals, nursing personnel shall attempt to do "rounds" in the cafeteria at meal time. Whenever nursing personnel cannot get to the cafeteria, residents in need of medical attention will be brought to the nurse in the Clinic.
- G. The last scheduled dispensing hour, the nurse will bring the medication to the Unit or facility.
- H. The nurse will take the medication directly to residents in lock-up units daily or as needed.
- I. It is the responsibility of employees to ensure that the nurse will not be disturbed or harassed when she/he is in the unit.
- J. Medications as a means of control shall be administered only by authorized medical personnel.